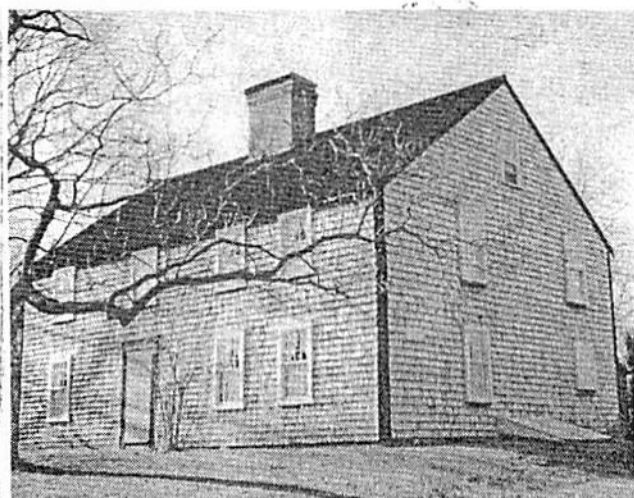


Local Museums Promote Tourism



John Alden House built in 1653 by John and 3rd son, Jonathon.

Early in the fall of 1994, the directors of the John Alden House, and the co-directors of the Winslow House of Marshfield began to work together. The aim of this collaboration was to create a half-day program for tour groups focusing on the common histories of both houses. That tour is being offered.

John Alden and Edward Winslow both came to the New World on the merchant vessel Mayflower. The 2 families are connected throughout American history. It was John Alden who witnessed the signing of Josiah Winslow's land deed, and Josiah returned the favor by laying the bounties of John's land grant in 1627. Court records state that John Alden served on the Governors Council, under Edward Winslow, in 1633.

Within 4 generations, the 2 families would have been on separate sides of a country-wide debate, "The War for

Independence." The Aldens were Patriots, the Winslows Loyalists. Major Judah Alden, a thorn in the side of the British at Valley Forge, lived in the Alden House while growing up. It was his father, Colonel Briggs Alden, who petitioned Duxbury to send a militia unit to fight in the battle of Concord and Lexington. Dr. Isaac Winslow, a Loyalist, stayed in Marshfield after all British forces were removed. Because he was a physician, he was not subjected to the harsh treatment given to other Loyalists.

The similarities and differences of the houses offer an irresistible connection that makes a great tour. In this exciting half-day tour, guests visit both houses and "relive" this change in friendship. While visiting the Alden House, not only will visitors receive a tour, but they will have the opportunity to meet Colonel Briggs' wife, Mercy Wadsworth Alden, who will talk of her life on the Alden farm during the turmoil of the Revolution. While at the Winslow House visitors will be treated to an elegant tea, similar to that served at the mansion by Dr. Winslow. Guests will be guided through both the Winslow House and the law office of Daniel Webster, statesman and orator, who purchased the Winslow House in 1844.

The tour will be limited to 45 persons, with a minimum attendance of 20, at a cost of \$9.50 per visitor. This tour will be offered from early May through mid-October. It is felt by both directors, that this program will provide insight into the lives of people who fought on opposing sides during the Revolution. If you are interested in organizing a group for this tour call 837-5753.